

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Hoy, la Congresista Loretta Sánchez (CA-47) envió una carta al Administrador General recomendándole al Servicio Postal de los EE.UU. (conocido en inglés como USPS) que

produzca más estampillas con hispanos. Aunque que el Servicio Postal produce algunas estampillas con temas de hispanos, estas no son producidas tan frecuentemente como otros sellos de herencia estadounidense. De hecho, desde 1980, solo se han producido 21 estampillas de herencia hispana.

"Creo que los sellos postales son una manera maravillosa de celebrar la herencia hispana en los Estados Unidos," dijo la Congresista Sánchez."Los Latinos han hecho contribuciones extraordinarias a los negocios, la educación, al gobierno y las artes. Es justo que nuestros sellos postales reflejen estos logros."

Las contribuciones de hispanos americanos se pueden encontrar desde la guerra revolucionaria, cuando miembros de la armada española demostraron su patriotismo y lealtad a los Estados Unidos. Hay innumerables individuos hispanos y eventos que se pudieran mostrar con orgullo en un sello postal como:

- Romualdo Pacheco, el único gobernador hispano de California y el primer hispano que tuvo un voto en el Congreso;

- Américo Paredes, el primer mexicano-americano que recibió el prestigioso premio Charles Frankel de la Fundación Nacional para las Humanidades; y
- Hernandez v. Texas, la decisión histórica de la Corte Suprema que logró ampliar los derechos de igualdad de protección a los estadounidenses de origen Mexicano y a otros grupos raciales.

Además de la Congresista Loretta Sánchez, los Congresistas Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-18), Linda Sánchez (CA-39), Raúl Grijalva (AZ-7),

Charles Gonzalez (TX-20), Albio antepasado (NJ-13), Jose Serrano (NY-16), y Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34) también firmaron

la carta, que está disponible a continuación:

To the members of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee:

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We are writing to ask you to respectfully recommend to the Postmaster General that stamps featuring Hispanic themes be issued annually. □ While Hispanic themed stamps are issued, they are not issued as frequently and in vast quantities as other American heritage- themed stamps are issued.

□ Since 1980, only 21 Hispanic themed stamps have been issued, compared with 156 African American themed stamps.

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Though we are pleased and applaud your efforts that Hispanic themed stamps are issued, we would like to see them issued on an annual basis.

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The many contributions that Hispanic Americans have made to our country can be traced back to the American Revolution, where members of the Spanish military demonstrated their fierce loyalty, dedication and patriotism to the United States. Through the years, the contributions and achievements of Hispanic Americans have been so prolific that on September 17th, 1968, then-President Lyndon Johnson designated one week a year as Hispanic Heritage Week.

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In 1988, President Ronald Reagan expanded the one-week observation to cover a 30-day period, commencing September 15 through October 15 as

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Hispanic Heritage Month.

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There are countless important Hispanic events and individuals that can be proudly displayed on the face of a U.S. stamp such as:

- *Hernandez v. Texas, where in 1954, the Supreme Court decided that Mexican Americans and all other racial groups had equal protections under the 14th Amendment;*
- *Romualdo Pacheco, who has served as the only Hispanic Governor of California. He also was the first Hispanic to have a vote in Congress;*
- *Américo Paredes, the first Mexican-American to receive the prestigious Charles Frankel Prize from the National Endowment for the Humanities;*
- *Honoring Hispanic veterans and the more than 30 Congressional Medals of Honor awarded to Mexican Americans during World War II; and*
- *Stamps supporting Hispanic youth and Hispanic musical artists.*

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Again, we simply ask that more Hispanic themed stamps be included annually. □ The individuals and events listed above are only a few of the many examples that can be used.

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If you have any questions about our request, please do not hesitate to contact Gladys Barcena in Congresswoman Loretta's Sanchez office on (202) 225-2965 or via e-mail at Gladys.Barcena@mail.house.gov

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